

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

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**NEWS RELEASE****For Immediate Release**

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**State Temporarily Suspends
Drug Medi-Cal Certification of Los Angeles Methadone Provider**
Drug Medi-Cal Fraud Suspected

The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) this week suspended the Drug Medi-Cal certification of Western Health Community Clinic, a methadone provider based in Harbor City, pending the outcome of an investigation of possible Drug Medi-Cal fraud.

Under the suspension, Western Health Community Clinic will no longer receive state reimbursement for Drug Medi-Cal patients. The temporary suspension affects approximately 80 patients who receive methadone maintenance services for addiction to opiates such as heroin. Private pay patients may continue to seek services.

ADP forwarded its findings to the Department of Health Services and the Department of Justice for further investigation.

Department officials were on site Tuesday to assist patients transferring to one of four other narcotic treatment providers in the area. Additional patients who need assistance transferring to another provider should call 916-322-6682 Monday through Friday between 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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